

GOLD COAST CHINA

Sand Paste – Using Burnishing Sand or Lang Lang Sand

Using Burnishing Sand for a fine sand effect:

A portion of **Dresden Base for Raised Gold** or **Texture Paste powder** with **1/3 Burnishing Sand** mixed with a Copaiba based medium (don't use an open medium or pure copaiba – as the paste has a tendency to run in the kiln). Mix to a consistency which is easy to apply with a brush (use a synthetic brush or old brush as the sand will eventually ruin your good brushes) Apply to desired area and fire to 800deg.

For a "Chunkier" look to your sand paste:

Mix **1/4 Lang Lang sand** with your Texture powder or Dres. B for R Gold.

Note: the application of the sand paste can be as thin or as wide as you like. It can also be applied quite thickly. Bits of glass or glass beads can be put into this mixture and fired to 800 deg. The glass bits at this temperature will "round off". Very occasionally a bit of this glass may chip off the paste work (it could be the next day or in 2 years) – just glue it back on.

LB Gold , Platinum or Copper can be applied over the paste and fired to 750deg. You may need a 2nd coat if not enough has been applied on the first application. Some lustres look good over the paste. The paler lustres look insipid, but Dark Blue in particular looks lovely. Fire 700deg. Don't use Green lustres as they go grey over the pastework. Test fire if in doubt.

If you use a lot of sand paste, it can be mixed in bulk and stored in an air tight container. The GCC Semi Open Medium works well as it keeps the mixture open for quite a long time. Over time the mix may set slightly or possibly separate. If it sets a little, just take a portion out onto your tile and reconstitute with a little more of the GCC Semi Open Medium. If the mix separates just give a stir in the jar. If the sand paste is mixed with some of the heavier Copaiba based mediums, the paste can set hard over a period of time and cannot be reconstituted.

Your sand paste can be coloured with paint. I would recommend test firing first as some colours (such as the greens) change when mixed with paste and fired.

Mix about 1/3 paint with the sand paste mixture and Fire to 800 deg.

Two colours I have mixed with my sand paste mixture are **Black** and **Fay Good's Ice Blue**. Each gave me an effect I required for the piece I was painting.

Black when mixed , of course, did not give me a deep black but a grey black.

Ice Blue mixed gave a very pretty Turquoise Blue.

EXPERIMENT.